

# MASSACHUSETTS FISHING & HUNTING



2019



## ATTENTION HUNTERS!

The 2019 Guide to Fishing & Hunting contains errors. Black bear and other hunting seasons are incorrect in the printed version of the Guide. The season dates below are correct. You can also find accurate season dates online at [mass.gov/masswildlife](http://mass.gov/masswildlife).

Highlighted text = corrected dates

## HUNTING SEASONS

		OPEN SEASON (ALL DATES INCLUSIVE)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ANNUAL LIMIT
<b>BLACK BEAR</b>					
<b>Black Bear</b>	Zones 1–14	First Season	Sept. 3 – Sept. 21	See full regulations for more information.	1
		Second Season	Nov. 4 – Nov. 23		
		Shotgun Season (restrictions apply*)	Dec. 2 – Dec. 14		

\*Hunters must wear 500 square inches of hunter orange on their head, chest and back. Rifles and handguns prohibited.

<b>UPLAND GAME BIRDS*</b>					
<b>Crow</b>	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – April 10 July 1 – April 10, 2020	—	—	—
<b>Pheasant</b>	Zones 1–14 Youth Hunt	Oct. 19 – Nov. 30 See page 47.	2	4	6
<b>Quail</b>	Zones 11–14	Oct. 19 – Nov. 30	4	8	20
<b>Ruffed Grouse</b>	Zones 1–14	Oct. 19 – Nov. 30	3	6	15
<b>Wild Turkey</b>	Spring: Zones 1–13	April 29 – May 25	See full regulations for more information.		
	Fall: Zones 1–13	Oct. 21 – Nov. 2			
	Youth Hunt: Zones 1–13	April 27 (see box below)			

\* Upland game bird hunting is closed during the shotgun deer season.

<b>DEER</b>					
<b>Deer</b>	Youth Deer Hunt	Sept. 28	See full regulations for more information.	1 antlered deer OR 1 antlerless deer in Zone specified in permit during season	
	Paralegic Hunt	Oct. 31 – Nov. 2			
	Archery	Zones 1–9: Oct. 21 – Nov. 30 Zones 10–14: Oct. 7 – Nov. 30	See full regulations for more information.	2 antlered deer + antlerless deer by permit	
	Shotgun	Dec. 2 – Dec. 14			
	Primitive Firearms	Dec. 16 – Dec. 31			

<b>RABBITS AND SQUIRREL</b>					
<b>Cottontail Rabbit</b>	Zones 1–12	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, Oct. 19 – Feb. 29, 2020	5	10	—
	Zones 13 and 14	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, Nov. 15 – Feb. 29, 2020	5	10	—
<b>Snowshoe Hare</b>	Zones 1–4	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, Oct. 19 – Feb. 29, 2020	2	4	—
	Zones 5–12	Jan. 1 – Feb. 5, Oct. 19 – Feb. 5, 2020	2	4	—
	Zones 13 and 14	Jan. 1 – Feb. 5, Nov. 15 – Feb. 5, 2020	2	4	—
<b>Gray Squirrel</b>	Zones 1–9	Sept. 9 – Jan. 2, 2020	5	10	—
	Zones 10–14	Oct. 19 – Jan. 2, 2020	5	10	—

Cottontail rabbit, snowshoe hare, and gray squirrel hunting seasons are closed during the shotgun deer season.

<b>FURBEARERS</b>					
<b>Bobcat</b>	Zones 1–8	Jan. 1 – Mar. 8, Dec. 20 – Mar. 7, 2020	—	—	—
<b>Coyote</b>	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Mar. 8, Oct. 19 – Mar. 7, 2020	—	—	—
<b>Fox (red or gray)</b>	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, Nov. 1 – Feb. 29, 2020	—	—	—
<b>Opossum</b>	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31, Oct. 1 – Jan. 31, 2020	—	—	—
<b>Raccoon</b>	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31, Oct. 1 – Jan. 31, 2020	3	See full regulations for more information.	—

All furbearer hunting seasons are closed during the shotgun deer season except for coyotes.

## FURBEARER TRAPPING

Species	OPEN SEASON (ALL DATES INCLUSIVE)
<b>Beaver<sup>1</sup></b>	Jan. 1 – April 15, Nov. 1 – April 15, 2020
<b>Bobcat<sup>1,2</sup>, Coyote<sup>1</sup>, Fox<sup>1</sup>, Weasel</b>	Nov. 1 – Nov. 30
<b>Fisher<sup>1</sup></b>	Nov. 1 – Nov. 22
<b>Mink<sup>1</sup>, River Otter<sup>1</sup></b>	Nov. 1 – Dec. 15
<b>Muskrat, Opossum, Raccoon, Skunk</b>	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, Nov. 1 – Feb. 29, 2020

1 – Pelt checking/reporting required; see full regulations for more information.

2 – Bobcats may only be trapped or salvaged in zones 1–8

The following species may be taken year-round (except during shotgun deer season) by licensed hunters with no daily or seasonal bag limit: English sparrow, flying squirrel, red squirrel, chipmunk, porcupine, skunk, starling, weasel, woodchuck.

## NO HUNTING ON SUNDAY

REPORT VIOLATIONS  
(800) 632-8075 [www.mass.gov/ole](http://www.mass.gov/ole)